



A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

201 West 13th Street, New York, NY, 10011 • (212) 243-5470

www.churchofthevillage.org • facebook.com/churchofthevillage

office@churchofthevillage.org

March 24, 2024 • Palm Sunday
Celebrating Women's History Month

Black Lives Matter / Welcome the Stranger, including Migrants and Refugees
Stop Hate Against Muslims, Jews, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders



Jesus' Bold Peace March
into Jerusalem

WE GATHER

“The land upon which we gather is part of the traditional territory of the Lenni-Lenape, called ‘Lenapehoking.’ The Lenape People lived in harmony with one another upon this territory for thousands of years. During the colonial era and early federal period, many were removed west and north, but some also remain among the continuing historical tribal communities of the region: The Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation; the Ramapough Lenape Nation; and the Powhatan Lenape Nation, The Nanticoke of Millsboro Delaware, and the Lenape of Cheswold Delaware.

We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of this land and their continuing relationship with their territory. In our acknowledgment of the continued presence of Lenape people in their homeland, we affirm the aspiration of the great Lenape Chief Tamanend, that there be harmony between the indigenous people of this land and the descendants of the immigrants to this land, “as long as the rivers and creeks flow, and the sun, moon, and stars shine.”

WELCOME

CELEBRATION OF MARCH BIRTHDAYS & SHARING GOD’S PEACE



We sing in praise of God's love who sent you to us
as a witness for justice and peace.
May God's embrace be your shield as you boldly share
who you are, what you've learned, what you bring.
God's blessing in your coming in___
God's blessing in your going out___
May God's love bless and increase___
the fruit of all your labor,
your life, your loves, your service,
may God's love bless and increase.

Child of God

**No matter what people say, say or think about you,
you are a Child, you are a Child of God.**

**No matter what you may say, say or think about you,
you are a Child, you are a Child of God.**

**And there is no thing or no one who can separate,
they can't separate you from the truth that you're someone,
You are family, you are meant to be, a Child, a Child of God!**

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (*Inclusive Bible*)

I thank you, YHWH, for your goodness!
Your love is everlasting! Let Israel say it:
“Your love is everlasting!”

Open the gates of justice for me,
let me come in and thank you, YHWH!
This is the gate of YHWH,
and only the upright can enter!
Thank you for hearing me, for saving me.
It was the stone which the builders rejected
that became the keystone;
this is YHWH's doing, and it is wonderful to see.
This is the day YHWH has made—let us celebrate with joy!
Please, YHWH, please save us!
Please, YHWH, give us prosperity now!
Blessings on the one who comes in the name of YHWH!
We bless you from YHWH's temple!
YHWH is God and God has enlightened us.
Join the festal procession!
With palm fronds in hand, go up to the horns of the altar!
You are my God, and I thank you;
you are my God, and I exalt you.
Thank you for hearing me, for saving me.
Thank you, YHWH, for your goodness!
Your love is everlasting!

* * * * *

Hosanna
COTV Choir and Sacred Dancers

Hosanna! Hosanna!
Hosanna to the King of Kings!
You are worthy, worthy to be praised.

Blessed is the One who's coming,
coming in the Name,
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God's Love.

Every knee shall bow to the Lord God, Almighty
every tongue shall confess that God is love.

Hosanna!

* * * * *

Mark 11:1-11 (*Inclusive Bible*)

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent off two of the disciples with this instruction:

“Go to the village straight ahead of you, and as soon as you enter it you will find tethered there a colt on which no one has ridden. Untie it and bring it back. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing that?’ say, ‘The Rabbi needs it, but will send it back very soon.’ ”

So they went off, and finding a colt tethered out on the street near a gate, they untied it. Some of the bystanders said to them, “What do you mean by untying that colt?” They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them take it.

They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks across its back, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. And everyone around Jesus, in front or in back of him, cried out,

“Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our
God! Blessed is the coming reign of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest!”

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the Temple precincts. Jesus inspected everything there, but since it was already late in the afternoon, he went out to Bethany accompanied by the Twelve.

The Word of Life and Salvation.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Jesus' Bold Peace March into Jerusalem

Pastor Jeff Wells
Lead Pastor, Church of the Village

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF SHARING

In our congregation and/or beyond,
what ways do you feel called to participate in nonviolent transformation?

WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE OF GRACE


INVITATION & RELEASE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Call and response



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. God of lov - ing pow'r.



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est!



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of God's love.

repeat ad lib



Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Cantor only



Ho - san - na in the high - - - est.

SHARING THE GIFTS OF GRACE

A TIME OF OFFERING

4 WAYS TO GIVE:

- The Vanco giving app, using the link on our website <https://www.churchofthevillage.org> or the Vanco mobile app or secure Vanco web link. Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YQX3>.
- Setting up a direct bank transfer from your bank to COTV's bank
- Mailing a check to COTV's address: 201 West 13th St., NY, NY, 10011
- For those in the church building: Placing your gift in the offering basket in the sanctuary



For help with any of these, send an email to giving@churchofthevillage.org
OR call the church office: 212-243-5470

OFFERTORY

Sakura no Ame, Itsuka
(Cherry Blossom Rain, Sometime)

GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Take These Gifts



Take these gifts, oh, take these gifts. Take these gifts, oh, take these gifts.
Take my hands, oh, take my hands. Take my hands, oh, take my hands.
Bless this world, oh, bless this world. Bless this world, oh, bless this world.



Let them be to-kens of your love. Take these gifts, O God.
Let them bless; let them o - pen wide. take my hands, O God.
may it heal, may it be made whole, bless this world, O God.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

We Will Walk with Jesus



We will walk, walk with Je - sus, walk the jour - ney of faith.



We will wash feet to - geth - er, we will share wine and bread.



We will pray in the gar - den, face the ho - rror and shame.

Refrain



And we'll rise, rise with Je - sus on that bless - ed third



day, yes we'll rise__ rise with Je - sus on that day.

WORSHIP HOSTS

Worship Design: Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward,
Dwight Campbell, Alfida Figueroa, Jim Norton & Katie Reimer

Lector/Reader: Dwight Campbell

Communion Assistant: TBD

Dance Ministry: Aliyah Miller, Ted Warner, Martine Mallary & Martha Chapman

Call to Offering: John Kleinig

Altar Design: John C. Flake

Visuals Design: Bailey Roach & Katie Reimer

Usher: Sam Winfrey

Guest Music Director & Keyboard: Abigail Lumsden

Organ: Michael Johnson

Sax/Clarinet/Flute/Bass: Matthew Willis

Drums & Percussion: Juan Felipe Mayorga

Zoom Host: Becca Love

Sound Engineer: Maya Maldonado

Ministers of Care: Virginia Riker (onsite); Jim Norton (online)

CREDITS

Cover Image: *Women of Holy Week (Palm Sunday)*, © Ally Barrett
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We Sing In Praise of God's Love

W: adapted by Jorge A. Lockward

M: Nilcéia Protázio

Music © Nilcéia Protázio (nilceiaprotasio@gmail.com)

Child of God

W & M: Mark A. Miller

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Hosanna!

W & M: Glenn Burleigh

© 1994, 1997 Glenn Burleigh (Burleigh Inspirations Music)

Red Lake Sanctus

W: Isa. 6:3, Matt. 21:9

M: Monte Mason after melodies found in

Chippewa Music by Frances Densmore

© Walton Music Corp. Used by permission.

We've Come This Far by Faith

W & M: Albert A. Goodson

2nd. stanza by John C. Flake

© 1965, 1993, Mana Music Inc.

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Sakura no Ame, Itsuka

(Cherry Blossom Rain, Sometime)

W & M: Takako Matsu & Satoshi Takebe

instrumental arr. by Abigail Lumsden

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Take My Hands

W: Adam M.L. Tice. Stz. 1, Jorge Lockward

M: Sally Ann Morris

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Hamba Nathi/Walk together

W & M: South African Freedom Song.

Eng. adaptation COTV

WE ARE THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE

The Church of the Village is a progressive and radically inclusive community that is committed to dismantling racism, sexism, and all forms of oppression. The foundation for all of our theology and practice is Jesus' instruction to "love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as yourself."

We seek to build a world overflowing with justice, mercy, kindness, and compassion.

Our church building stands on ancestral lands of the Lenape people. The colonizers who stripped Indigenous peoples of their lands used Christianity to justify their actions. We are beneficiaries of a history of appropriation, slavery, and forced migration. We repent and commit to being a community that seeks to repair the harm done to Indigenous peoples and build new pathways to love and justice.

We celebrate human diversity – welcoming people of every color, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and cognitive ability, and economic status. We strongly support environmental justice and stewardship of the Earth. We believe many roads lead to God and are respectful of a diversity of spiritual paths. We believe our community flourishes with many points of view, opportunities for creative expression, and participatory worship.

To learn more about The Church of the Village, please complete our [Virtual Welcome Card](#).

You can also submit a prayer request on the Welcome Card form.

We will gladly send you our weekly email newsletter and Daily Inspiration emails.

If you have questions, please contact PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org.

Please follow us on Facebook ([Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage)), Twitter (@umcofthevillage), and Instagram (churchofthevillage). Check out our [YouTube channel](#) for videos of music, worship, Finding Center, and more.

You can also learn more on our website at churchofthevillage.org.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

March 24 – Sunday	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 12:00pm	Choir Rehearsal Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Palm Sunday worship Community Closet
March 26 – Tuesday	2:00pm – 5:00pm	The Red Door Place: Food Pantry
March 27 – Wednesday	6:30pm-7:30pm 6:30pm	God After Deconstruction Choir Rehearsal
March 28 – Thursday	6:00pm	Holy Thursday worship
March 29 – Friday	6:00pm	Good Friday worship
March 30 – Saturday	11:30am – 2:00pm	The Red Door Place: Community Meal
March 31 – Sunday	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 12:00pm	Choir Rehearsal Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Easter Sunday worship Community Closet

2024 Stewardship Campaign

Community, Commitment, and Courage

I give because I need to support the people and places that give me life.

I give because I gotta put my money where my mouth is...

I give because this community looks like God's Kin-dom in action to me.

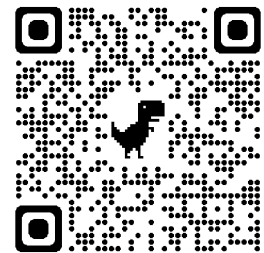
I give because this is the place in my life where I encounter the biggest variety of God's Children, and I love it!

We, the Stewardship Team, are grateful for the many ways your commitment to our community expresses itself. In particular, we are grateful that you see financial giving as one of the ways in which you covenant with other members of this community and with the God whose love draws us together and outward to the world in which our lives are lived. As you give prayerful discernment to your gifting for 2024 – your expression of solidarity with fellow journeyers in faith – please consider the many individuals, initiatives, and hopes that reside in our congregation and give as generously as you are able.

You can express your commitment via: <https://www.churchofthevillage.org/2024-stewardship-campaign>. Or, if you have questions, via: Email giving@churchofthevillage.org.

As we work together to foster, support and grow, we have tried to make it easy to give. Apart from our weekly collection basket for those on site, we offer the following:

- **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER/DIRECT PAYMENT**
- **VANCO:** *Vanco*'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want.
- **CHECK:** you can send a check payable to "The Church of the Village," and mail it to: Church of the Village
PO Box 167, New York, NY 10113



For assistance with using any of these methods or to talk about remembering Church of the Village in your will, email giving@churchofthevillage.org. *Please note – emails to this address should be about how we can help you set up your giving process but should NOT include any specific information about pledge amounts, gift amounts, or any other confidential information from the individual sending the message.*

Thank you for being a part of the family of The Church of the Village and supporting the work and ministry of this community!



Jason Brubaker



John Kleinig



Jorge Lockward



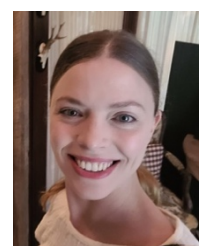
Jeanie Kurka Reimer



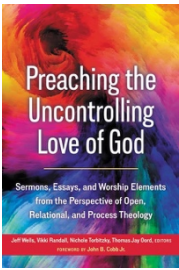
Katie Reimer



Sam Winfrey



Sarah Witman



PREACHING THE UNCONTROLLING LOVE OF GOD BOOK LAUNCH

Tuesday, April 2 and Wednesday, April 3

We are excited to share the news that the new book, *Preaching the Uncontrolling Love of God* will be released on Monday, April 1. The book will be available from multiple online booksellers.

We invite you to join us for the in-person book launch (also on Zoom) at the Church of the Village (NYC) on Tuesday, April 2 at 6:30pm ET or the online Zoom book launch on Wednesday, April 3 at 3:30pm PT / 4:30pm MT / 5:30pm CT / 6:30pm ET.

For more information and to register: <https://www.churchofthevillage.org/preaching-the-uncontrolling-love-of-god>

This important book was co-edited by Jeff Wells, Vikki Randall, Nichole Torbitzky, and Thomas Jay Oord. John B. Cobb Jr. wrote the Foreword. It has endorsements from Brian McLaren, Tripp Fuller, and Karen Strand Winslow.



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

March 24 - March 31

Join us in person or online at for Holy Week to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Here is our schedule:

Palm Sunday – 3/24 10:30am

Holy Thursday – 3/28 6:00pm

Good Friday – 3/29 6:00pm

Easter Sunday – 3/31 10:30am



CONVERSATION ON BAPTISM

Saturday, 3/30, 11:00am via Zoom

Join us over Zoom to explore the theology of baptism and what it means in the United Methodist Church.

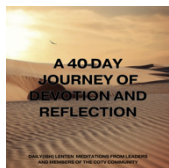


GOD AFTER DECONSTRUCTION DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays, 2/21-3/27, 6:30pm via Zoom

During Lent, we will be offering a weekly discussion group based on the course, *God After Deconstruction*, created by friends of Church of the Village, Tripp Fuller and Thomas Jay Oord. Join us for a facilitated discussion led by Pastor Jeff and Pastor Alexis each Wednesday in Lent at 6:30pm via Zoom. Themes include scripture, the problem of evil, faith and science, sex and gender, and others.

For more details go to www.churchofthevillage.org/groups or contact Pastor Alexis at pastoralexis@churchofthevillage.org. Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87062849124>



A 40 DAY JOURNEY OF DEVOTION AND REFLECTION

Weekdays during Lent

During Lent we'll be offering daily(ish) devotionals and reflections from leaders and members of the COTV community, centered on wilderness. They'll offer a brief thought on how themes of wilderness have shown up in their lives, as well as an opportunity to pause and meditate, pray, or reflect further.

We hope you'll be able to engage regularly with the daily reflections, and that they are helpful in enabling you to pause in contemplation during this season. Anyone who is signed up for the COTV newsletter will receive these in their inboxes. For more information, and to see all of the reflections in one place, please visit <https://www.churchofthevillage.org/a-40-day-journey-of-devotion-and-reflection>

COMMUNITY CLOSET

Sundays, Noon to 1pm.



Community Closet is seeking donations!

Ready to let go of some of your gently used clothing and accessories? Make space in your closet by helping to stock our free, inclusive, and identity-affirming community closet. Contributions can be brought to COTV on Sundays or email Pastor Alexis to arrange a possible pick-up!

Spread the word! Church of the Village's Community Closet will be available every Sunday for 1 hour after service in the narthex. All are welcome to browse the racks and shop for free! If you know of someone who may be desiring a new style or a wardrobe change, please invite them to check us out! We have a variety of styles and sizes but are especially looking for donations of womenswear in sizes 10 and above as well as menswear in good condition. Interested in hosting the Community Closet after service one Sunday? Sign up here or e-mail Beccalove123@gmail.com for more info!

DANCE PRAYER

Every third Thursday of the month, 6:30pm-7:30pm



Join us in the sanctuary every third Thursday of the month for Dance Prayer! We will come together with an opening prayer and moment of reflection and then spend 45 minutes moving our bodies and dancing together to a diverse playlist. There will be no designated choreography and no final performance, just a joyful space to connect with your own rhythm while rejoicing in the gift of dance and community. Each gathering will then close with a moment of prayer and reflection before we part ways

HEALING CONVERSATIONS

(Every 4th Sunday of the month); 12:30pm

Healing Conversations is a place to share your feelings about the losses in your life in a safe, supportive, and friendly atmosphere. Your feelings of loss may be caused by events that are recent or in the distant past. You are invited to join our small group on site or online via Zoom (**Meeting ID:** 838 5366 1938 **Passcode:** 690827).

THE RED DOOR PLACE



Donations, in person, to the program can be made Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, from 9am to 3pm. Ring the bell on the red door on 13th street or call the number posted at the door.

Food Pantry: Tuesdays; 2pm - 5pm - BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Appointments are available via the [Plentiful App](#) (download from the play/app store). You can search for us, in the app, by name "The Red Door Place" or scroll through the list (towards the bottom) and our pantry will show. After registering on the app, you will receive a QR code - **BRING the QR code with you to your**

appointment. Arrive within 5 minutes of your scheduled appointment and present your QR code for scanning.

If you do not have a QR code, you will not receive pantry. **Note:** Missed appointments can be rescheduled to a later open slot or the following Tuesday. If you have any questions call (347) 687-5321 or visit www.thereddoorplace.org.

Community Meal: We will continue to hand out bags of food on Saturdays beginning around 11:30am. Guests may arrive earlier to get a place in line; we have chalk marks on the sidewalk at 6-foot intervals to indicate where people should stand at a safe distance.

THE RED DOOR PLACE – NEEDS MONEY FOR FOOD!

IF YOU WANT TO HELP, ask your employer, your family, your friends to GIVE! Put out an appeal on your Facebook page. Email people you think would be able to donate.

TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE RED DOOR PLACE, you can donate online using [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app. Or send checks made payable to Church of the Village and write The Red Door Place (TRDP) in the memo line.

Mail to: Church of the Village, PO Box 167, New York, NY 10113.

GIVE TO THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE ON VANCO

The Church of the Village is now accessible via Vanco. [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want. Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YQX3>.

BECOME A CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE PRAYER PARTNER

Each week, we receive many prayers through our website, the Red Door Place empowerment ministry, on prayer cards during worship, and from our Ministers of Care team. These prayers are distributed via email to our large team of **Prayer Partners** who lift them up to God. If you would like to pray for others, please email Deaconess Sarah Capers (smcapers99@gmail.com) with your interest. You can submit a prayer online at ChurchoftheVillage.org/prayer.

COTV WORSHIP VIDEOS ON FACEBOOK

It is always a deeper experience to be present with the worshipping community, but when you can't join us for Sunday worship, you can view the worship recording anytime at Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage/videos.

SERMON ARCHIVE

If you missed worship or want to read the sermon again, we post many of our past Sunday sermon manuscripts and worship bulletins on our website at ChurchoftheVillage.org/sermons. We encourage you to read and share them with others.



How to Contact Key COTV Leaders

Pastor Jeff Wells,
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Pastor Alexis Lillie,
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(719) 201-6535

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Lay Leader
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Alfida Figueroa,
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